

REMARKS

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action dated November 29, 2005. Because this response is mailed on February 27, 2006, the Amendment is timely filed.

I. Status of the Amendments

Prior to this amendment, claims 1-17 were pending, claims 18-23 and 44-55 were withdrawn, and claims 24-43 were canceled. By this amendment, claims 1, 18-23, and 44-55 are canceled and claims 2-4, 9, and 13-15 are amended. Thus, claims 2-17 are at issue.

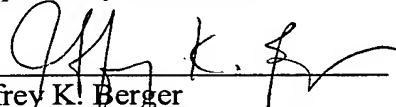
II. Response to Office Action

Independent claim 16 was allowed in the November 29 Office Action, along with its dependent claim 17. By this amendment, claims 1, 18-23 and 44-55 have been canceled. Claims 2-15 have been amended, as necessary, to depend from allowed claim 16, and, therefore, are also allowable.

The applicant believes this amendment places the case in condition for allowance, and reexamination is requested. If the examiner has any questions regarding this amendment, he is invited to contact the undersigned. No fees are believed due, but if a fee is required, the Commissioner is directed to charge deposit account 13-2855.

Dated: February 27, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 
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